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Cover: Orphan Osprey in duck blind nest with two other 4-week-old young at Blackwater Refuge. See story on page 70.
 Photo by Steve Gniadek, June 9, 1978.



ROSEATE SPOONBILL - ACCIDENTAL VISITOR TO SMITH ISLAND

Donald R. Baugh

A Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*), a rare long-legged wading bird indigenous in North America only to southern Florida, southern Texas, Mexico, and the West Indies, was a visitor to Smith Island, Maryland, this past spring and summer. The spoonbill was sighted numerous times between April 14 and September 19, 1979.

Smith Island is a 5,000 acre island in the lower Chesapeake Bay in Somerset County, Maryland, and Accomack County, Virginia. It's habitat is primarily undisturbed salt marsh with several wooded hammocks.

The spoonbill was first sighted by the author, a teacher with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF)¹, and a group of ten students from Western Senior High participating in an outdoor program at CBF's Smith Island Estuarine Study Center. The spoonbill flew about fifty feet overhead, was recognized by its distinctive bill, outstretched neck, and a slight trace of pink on the feathers. It was at this time in immature plumage, lacking the bright pink and red plumage of the adult. The author was familiar with the spoonbill from his canoe trips in the Everglades backcountry.

The next sighting, on June 20, by Chris Marshall, a native Islander, surprised most involved in the search for the spoonbill because more than two months lapsed since the previous sighting and the bird was thought to have left Smith Island. Mr. Marshall initially thought he saw a blood-stained "crane" (Great Egret), but on closer examination he saw that the pink feathers were natural and he noticed the rounded, compressed bill. He later identified the bird he saw as the Roseate Spoonbill depicted in Robbins' Birds of North America. The spoonbill apparently had reached the adult plumage at this time.

Numerous sightings followed, most by native Islanders who chanced upon this unusual bird. All attempts at locating the bird were unsuccessful because of the intricate nature of the marshes. The following sightings were reported:

July 25: Edward Marshall, Clarence Tyler, Karen Marshall, Kathleen Marshall, and others aboard the ferry Captain Jason, saw the spoonbill in

^{1/} The CBF is a non-profit citizens' group working to conserve the resources of Chesapeake Bay. CBF's Smith Island Estuarine Study Center operates year-round natural history-oriented field trips for students of all ages. Contact the CBF Annapolis office at 268-8816 for details.

the company of several Great Egrets at a distance of about 20 yards. Captain Marshall, an Island authority on marsh birds, recognized the characteristic back and forth feeding behavior of the spoonbill and the pink color from television films he has seen.

July 30: William E. Somers saw the spoonbill and having not heard of the previous sightings, he notified Henry T. Armistead of Philadelphia of his findings. Mr. Armistead went to Smith Island to search for the bird. He did not find the spoonbill, but he did reveal the previous sightings. This represented the first totally independent sighting.

August 9: Dallas and Jim Bradshaw and Waverly Evans chanced upon the spoonbill in a marsh creek.

September 19: Michael Harrison from the Glenn L. Martin National Wildlife Refuge and three other Fish and Wildlife Service employees saw the spoonbill after months of concerted investigation. Ironically, they chanced upon the spoonbill when they did observe it. They came within fifty feet of it and had a clear view of the distinctive bill and the coloration.

All the sightings were within a two-mile radius, most were made when the tide was low, exposing the mud-flats, and the spoonbill often was in the company of at least several Great Egrets. Unfortunately, there were no pictures taken of the bird.

The origin of the spoonbill is certainly unclear. Possibly, the bird was caught as an immature in a northward moving tropical storm and blown off course. The author remembers two such strong storms from the south in the weeks before the first sighting. The possibility of the spoonbill being a zoo escapee apparently is rather small. Richard Ryan, an authority on zoo escapes, determined that there are only six Roseate Spoonbills in zoos of the middle Atlantic and northern states and that none of them is reported missing. Mr. Ryan further reported that the likelihood that this species would be in any private collection is extremely low, primarily because of the illegality of owning one.

Previous records reveal sightings of the spoonbill in Pennsylvania in 1844 (Poole, Pennsylvania Birds, 1964) and in 1968 (Audubon Field Notes: 22: 524). John Jackson Elliott, a noted ornithologist, mentioned to Mr. Ryan that he had seen a Roseate Spoonbill at Sable Island, Nova Scotia, in 1948. No other records of spoonbill sightings in the northeast Atlantic Coast were found. These recent sightings represent an extremely misplaced bird. The spoonbill provided excitement to myself and I am sure to the entire birding community. It also provided excitement for the Islanders, who too often take their precious salt marsh environment for granted.

I acknowledge the assistance of Henry T. Armistead who researched the previous sightings and who contacted Richard Ryan. I also thank Richard Ryan for his contributions on the possibility of the spoonbill being an escaped bird.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation
162 Prince George St., Annapolis 21401

WESTERN KINGBIRD IN CALVERT COUNTY

John H. Fales

At 1:15 p.m. on September 25, 1977, while driving on Plum Point Road, one mile east of Rt. 4 in Calvert County, Maryland, I saw a Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) on a power line. I stopped and observed the bird for several minutes until it suddenly took flight and left. It was surprising to see this species in Southern Maryland. The day was mostly cloudy, and the temperature was 76° F.

The weeks that followed this observation were mostly milder than usual, and it was not until the morning of November 12 that a bit of ice occurred as well as snow flurries. It became clear later, and at 3:30 p.m. I found a Western Kingbird in my yard at Plum Point. It was constantly in view since it perched most of the time. I saw it eat a dogwood berry that it picked from a small tree. Yellow-rumped Warblers were present, and one appeared to follow or pursue the kingbird. The kingbird was seen by three other persons.

The following day was clear and cold (44°F). The kingbird appeared again at 3:45 p.m. It flew close by with tail spread as it plucked a dogwood berry in flight. The white tail edges and yellow feathers showed well. It flew away for a while but returned again. Two days later it was milder (58° F), and the kingbird was first seen at 9:00 a.m. It remained around the premise all day, and in the afternoon it was catching insects on the wing. I was away the next day.

The 17th was rainy in the morning and clear in the afternoon, and the kingbird was seen all day. In the afternoon it perched for a long time near the top of a tall maple that had some leaves remaining. Shortly before a thunderstorm broke the Western Kingbird flew off. It gained some altitude immediately, and flew out of sight over a swamp toward a wooded area to the north and was not seen again.

These observations were very interesting in that this bird stayed in the same area from November 12 to 17. Most of the Western Kingbird records noted by Stewart and Robbins (1958) were from the Eastern Shore between September 9 and December 23 of various years. The only record from Southern Maryland was an observation by Alexander Wetmore in St. Marys County on September 18, 1938, when two Western Kingbirds occurred together at St. Marys City.

The records given here are probably the first for this species in Calvert County. Beal (1912) did not mention the finding of dogwood berries in the stomachs of Western Kingbirds.

LITERATURE CITED

- Beal, F.E.L. 1912. Food of our more important flycatchers. U.S. Dept. Agr. Biol. Surv. Bull. 44.
Stewart, R. E., and Robbins, C.S. 1958. Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia. North American Fauna No. 62: 1-401.

SUCCESSFUL TRANSPLANT OF YOUNG OSPREY AT BLACKWATER REFUGE

Guy W. Willey

On June 8, 1978, a resident of southern Dorchester County contacted my residence to advise that a friend had found a young Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) that had washed ashore near their home, and they had brought the bird to her. I advised her that the bird was protected by law and she could not hold it legally. She then said that she would bring it to Blackwater Refuge early the next morning.

As the bird was only about four weeks old, refuge personnel decided to try placing it in a foster nest. We checked several nests to find young of the same age. We located a nest with two healthy four-week young on an old duck blind in the Little Blackwater River. James Applegate, Steve Gniadek and I, all employees of Blackwater Refuge, placed the orphan in the nest, and Steve and James took photographs, one of which appears on the cover of this issue. As we departed from the nest, after 15 or 20 minutes, the foster parents returned directly. They appeared not to be too upset by the addition to the family.

On June 19 when Joseph Cornish and I revisited the nest, all three young were in good shape and about the same size. Again the adults returned directly to the nest after we made our check. On July 6 all three birds were standing on the edge of the nest. On July 13 all three flew from the nest and circled overhead. Two returned to the nest after I moved away, the other perched on another blind about 200 feet to the east. After July 13, we observed repeatedly five Ospreys using the general area and we believe the adoption was a success. All the birds departed south in early October.

The purpose of this report is to record this incident in the hope that it may help save a percentage of the young abandoned Ospreys that would otherwise perish.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Cambridge 21613



LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE HOOPOE

Eleanor B. Johnson

Most people think of bird-watching as an outdoor past-time in which the participant, binoculars and guide in hand, tramps through the woods or fields trying to spot as many species as possible. Although I spend a great deal of time at this pursuit, my most fascinating and time-consuming birding is quite different since the bird for which I search is not even found in the Western Hemisphere.

It all started about ten years ago. We were going to Tunisia, where my husband was to work for Medico-Care in the Tunis Hospital for a month. Being avid bird watchers, we purchased the best available book for the area, "A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe" by Peterson, Mountfort

and Hollom. (Since that time a better reference, "The Birds of Britain and Europe with North Africa and the Middle East" by Heinzel, Fitter and Parslow has been published.) There on the cover of the Guide was the imprint of a unique crested bird with striped wings, the likes of which I had never seen or even heard of before. I was hooked and determined to see the Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), which the book described as "unmistakable... boldly barred black and white wings and tail, long black-tipped erectile crest and long curved bill."

We were fortunate enough to sight one Hoopoe on that trip, and on a later trip we saw innumerable Hoopoes in Egypt. This jaunty, jay-sized bird is a year-round resident of North Africa and southern Asia, a migrant to southern Europe and other Mediterranean countries and a rare visitor to Great Britain and northern Europe. His habits are both comical and filthy--he prances and bobs around on the ground looking for grubs and neglects to clean his nest, which is notorious for its stench. He is a hole-nester, building in hollow trees or crevices of cliffs and sometimes in the cracks of ancient monuments.

But the Hoopoes I have sighted with binoculars cannot compare in number or interest to the Hoopoes I have been sighting ever since in art, archaeology and literature. Because of its flamboyant plumage and amusing behavior, the bird has captured the imagination of artists and authors throughout the ages. For me, finding it has become an intellectual pursuit in libraries, museums and stores of the United States and Europe, or wherever we travel.

Last year, for instance, in northern Italy I found Hoopoes painted on the frescoed ceiling of a sixteenth century palace, a fine porcelain Hoopoe on the mantel of an 18th century villa and I was able to buy a pottery plate crudely decorated with a likeness of the bird. In England I spotted a Hoopoe embellishing an eighteenth century Meissen soup tureen in a manor house belonging to the British National Trust, and again on a papyrus in the British Museum. In the United States I came across an unmistakable Hoopoe in a seventeenth century Dutch still-life at the Denver Art Museum, and there are several works at the Metropolitan in New York and one at the Cleveland Museum of Art that have Hoopoes in them. Here in Baltimore I have been able to purchase a lacquer box, a lampshade and greeting cards with the bird's image on them.

Going way back in history, perhaps the earliest Hoopoes were aboard Noah's Ark, for the Queen Mother of England owns a Jacob Bassano oil painting that shows two of them in a tree awaiting their turn to embark. In Egypt there are many fine examples of the bird on tomb carvings, paintings and papyri. At Sakkhara, the site of the ancient step pyramid, in a tomb of a king dated to 2400 B.C. there are Hoopoes on a frieze, and high in the cliff tombs at Beni Hasan (1900 B.C.) is a remarkably preserved painting with a Hoopoe perched among other recognizable North African species. One of King Tut's many treasures contains a likeness of the bird, and there are others in the Cairo Museum. On Crete, the Minoans regarded him as a culinary delicacy, and he is pictured on the walls of the Palace of Minos (1500 B.C.) as a game bird.

Turning to literature, the Old Testament (Leviticus XI: 19) lists the Hoopoe along with vultures, owls, bats, etc., among the forbidden meats in the dietary laws; he was considered unclean because of his filthy habits. There are numerous Hebrew legends about the Hoopoe, some referring to the bird's appearance in the wilderness at the time of the Exodus and many variations of the role he played in bringing the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon's court. In one tale the Hoopoe carries an invitation from the king to the queen requesting her to visit, and in another the bird is rewarded with a golden crown for shielding Sheba from the sun as she crossed the desert. An ancient Canaanite story refers to the Hoopoe's nest as a hiding place for the jewels of the god Baal, because the cavity's smell was so bad no one could get close.

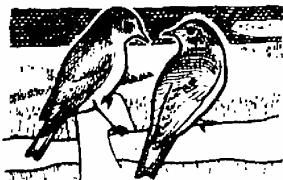
Also in the B.C. period, my favorite feathered friend plays a lead role in Aristophanes' "The Birds" (414 B.C.); and Plato, in "Phaedo" (380 B.C.) has Socrates mention the Hoopoe. In anthologies of Greek and Roman mythology the naughty Tereus, who seduced his sister-in-law Procne and then plucked out her tongue so she couldn't recount his crime, is punished by being turned into a Hoopoe, condemned forever to a filthy nest.

Interest in the species has continued through the centuries. The Brothers Grimm, in the early 1800's, write of a worthless farmer who is turned into a Hoopoe and forced to fly around forever calling "up, up, up" [the Hoopoe's cuckoo-like song--Ed.] because he failed to nourish his cattle and they became too weak to stand. Contemporary writers frequently mention the Hoopoe. James Michener includes him in both "Iberia" and "The Source"; in the latter book a character is nick-named "Hoopoe" and several pages are devoted to a description of the bird and legends about it. Mary Renault's novels about Greece mention the bird, and Julian Huxley in "From an Ancient Land" describes it as a "strange and lovely creature that is sure to gather legends around it."

In addition to his association with Noah, Moses and Solomon, the Hoopoe is also found in the company of St. Francis of Assisi. Tadeo di Bartolo, a fourteenth century painter, depicts the bird as a devout listener to the preacher. He can be seen, too, in the presence of King Baber, founder of the early sixteenth century Moghul dynasty; two Persian miniatures include the Hoopoe in hunting scenes. It would appear that the Moghuls, like the Minoans, regarded the bird as an appetizing treat.

There once was a live Hoopoe at the Washington Zoo but now there apparently are none in the United States, although they evidently survive well in captivity. Mounted birds are on exhibit at the Smithsonian and the Museum of Natural History in New York.

Since my Hoopoe watching is by necessity a sedentary and indoor activity, I restrict it to the winter months. When the juncos, white-throats and siskins begin to leave, I put aside my spectacles, take up my binoculars and head for the fields, the marshes and the woods to catch the warblers in migration and the orioles, tanagers and grosbeaks returning to the North. The Hoopoe hunt is neglected until winter sets in again.



THE SEASON

SPRING MIGRATION, MARCH 1 - MAY 31, 1979

.. Robert F. Ringler

There was no severe weather during this period, but birding was by no means always pleasant as wind and water often arrived on weekends. Temperatures averaged $+3.5^{\circ}$ from normal in March, -1.5° in April, and near normal in May. Precipitation for the three months was near normal with March the driest and most of the rain falling in the second half of May, following a torrid week of exceptionally high temperatures. The last measurable snowfall was two inches at McHenry on April 16. Most of the state was clear of snow for the entire period; the exception was the mountainous areas, which had snow cover for the first week of March only.

Open water was available inland and the waterfowl took advantage of it by moving from their wintering grounds slightly early this year. The relatively mild weather seemed to accelerate plant growth, and the dearth of any substantial frontal systems forced the migrant land birds through our area quickly. The minor fronts of April 27, May 4, 13, 19, and 24 provided the few good days of woodland birding.

Observers across the state commented on the rather lackluster showing of the passerine species this spring:

Pope: "A small surge of warblers near the end of April seemed to be the peak of their migration."

Wierenga: "The spring season around Annapolis seemed rather dull and unexciting."

Parks: "...there were no large movements of birds or waves (of warblers)."

Hewitt: "This has been a very poor spring migration for migrant warblers and migrant thrushes."

Armistead: "...it was lousy weather for birding."

Shorebirds suffered much the same fate with commentary such as: "poor showing", "few highlights", and "unremarkable, dull", summing up people's feelings. However, highlights there were, so let's get to them after we take a look at the people who make these reports possible.

Contributors:

Western Maryland (Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties) - Fran Pope, Sallie Thayer, Jim Paulus, Ann and Paul Smith, Dr. David H. Wallace, Dan Boone.

Frederick/Carroll - Charles L. Mullican, Dr. David H. Wallace, Dr. John

Table 1. Spring Arrival Dates, 1979

Species	Median 10-Yr 1979	W.Md	F/Ca	Balt	Howa	Mont	Pr.G	AnAr	S.Md	K/Qa	Caro	Talb	LES
Common Loon	4/12 4/ 7	4/10 4/ 7 3/31	4/19 4/28	--	3/29	--	4/ 6	--	4/ 9	3/31	--	4/ 9	3/31
Horned Grebe	3/15 4/ 7	3/24 3/18 3/ 7	4/ 3 4/ 7	0	4/10	W	4/12	0	0	4/12	W	--	--
Pied-billed Grebe	3/18 3/31	3/20 4/12 3/25	4/ 3 4/ 7 3/ 3	4/ 5 3/25	--	0	0	3/31	3/31	3/16	0	5/ 9	3/31
Double-cr. Cormorant	4/14 3/31	4/21 5/ 5 3/31	0	--	0	3/31	3/31	3/16	0	5/ 9	3/31	--	--
Great Blue Heron	3/18 3/20	3/17 -- 3/14	2/ 4 4/21 3/29	3/10 3/24	5/ 5	--	--	W	--	--	--	--	--
Green Heron	4/18 4/18	4/18 4/24 4/13	4/ 8 4/29 4/22	4/22	--	4/15	4/28	4/15	4/16	--	--	--	--
Little Blue Heron	4/27 4/25	0 0 5/13	0 0	4/22	4/ 6	0	5/ 5	0	4/22	4/28	--	--	--
Cattle Egret	4/10 4/21	0 0 0	0 0	4/21	4/13	5/ 5	4/14	5/ 5	4/21	3/31	--	--	--
Great Egret	4/14 4/15	4/ 8 0	3/17	0 0	4/27	4/22	5/ 5	3/14	0	5/ 9	3/31	--	--
Snowy Egret	4/17 4/21	0 0 4/21	0 0	4/17	4/21	5/ 5	4/29	0	4/ 9	3/31	--	--	--
Least Bittern	-- --	0 0 5/ 5	0 0	0	4/21	--	5/ 7	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
American Bittern	4/16 --	0 -- 4/ 1	0 4/ 2	--	4/ 8	0	4/22	0	0	--	--	--	--
Whistling Swan	3/ 6 3/ 3	3/17 3/ 2 3/ 3	2/22 3/ 6	--	3/ 3	W	3/ 1	--	W	W	--	--	--
Canada Goose	3/ 2 3/ 2	3/ 7 2/28 2/28	2/27 3/ 3 3/ 1	3/ 3	--	W	--	4/17	W	--	--	--	--
Gadwall	3/ 9 --	3/24 3/20 3/ 3	0 0	--	0	0	3/10	0	0	--	--	--	--
Common Pintail	3/ 3 3/ 3	3/18 3/ 8 3/ 6	3/19 3/ 3 3/18	3/14	3/25	3/10	0	0	3/16	--	--	--	--
Green-winged Teal	3/20 3/23	4/ 3 3/20 3/23	3/17 4/ 1 3/ 3	4/15	0	3/ 1	0	4/22	W	--	--	--	--
Blue-winged Teal	3/22 3/17	3/28 3/13 3/18	3/17 3/17 3/14	3/14	0	3/16	4/21	4/22	3/16	--	--	--	--
American Wigeon	3/ 5 3/ 4	3/ 5 3/ 6 3/ 3	3/ 8 3/ 3 3/ 3	W	W	2/26	3/16	W	--	--	--	--	--
Northern Shoveler	3/18 3/29	3/30 4/ 7 3/ 9	2/ 4 4/ 7	0	0	3/10	3/29	0	--	--	--	--	--
Wood Duck	3/ 9 3/15	3/18 3/ 8 3/ 6	3/19 3/ 3 3/18	3/14	3/25	3/10	0	0	3/16	--	--	--	--
Redhead	3/ 7 3/ 5	3/11 3/18	--	3/15	0	3/ 3	3/ 3	0	2/26	3/ 5	0	--	--
Ring-necked Duck	3/ 6 3/12	3/ 9 3/ 6 3/ 3	3/12 3/24 3/ 3	W	3/25	3/20	4/10	0	--	--	--	--	--
Canvasback	3/14 --	4/ 1 0 W	0 0	3/ 3	W	0	2/26	3/ 5	W	--	--	--	--
Lesser Scaup	3/ 6 3/ 3	3/11 3/18 2/27	2/27 0	3/ 3	W	0	2/26	3/ 5	--	--	--	--	--
Common Goldeneye	3/ 3 3/ 4	3/ 9 2/28 2/27	0 0	3/11	W	0	2/26	4/10	W	W	--	--	--
Rufflehead	3/12 3/ 5	3/28 3/ 2 3/13	3/ 8 0	3/ 3	W	0	2/26	0	W	W	--	--	--
Oldsquaw	3/22 4/ 3	4/ 3 4/ 8 4/ 2	4/ 3 0	0	3/21	0	2/26	4/10	W	W	--	--	--
Hooded Merganser	3/ 7 3/ 6	3/ 5 3/ 6 W	3/20 0	3/ 3	0	0	3/15	0	0	W	--	--	--
Common Merganser	3/ 4 3/ 3	-- 3/ 6 2/27	0 3/ 3 3/ 3	--	0	3/14	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Red-breasted Merganser	3/15 3/10	3/24 0	3/11	4/ 8	3/10	0	3/10	0	2/26	0	--	--	--
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/11 3/ 5	3/ 8 2/14 3/ 7	3/ 8 W	W	3/ 1	2/20	3/ 3	W	3/31	W	--	--	--
Red-tailed Hawk	2/28 2/28	3/ 9 3/18 2/28	2/28 W	W	2/27	W	W	W	W	W	--	--	--
Broad-winged Hawk	4/17 4/15	4/11 4/19 4/ 5	--	--	4/19	4/ 5	--	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
Osprey	3/26 3/20	4/ 1 4/12 3/31	4/12 4/14	3/24	3/16	3/17	3/16	3/10	3/10	3/16	--	--	--
American Kestrel	3/ 3 3/ 2	3/ 4 3/18 3/ 6	2/27 W	3/26	2/25	W	W	W	W	W	--	--	--
Sora	4/27 --	0 0 4/29	0 0	0	4/ 8	0	5/ 4	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
American Coot	4/16 3/16	4/ 6 3/18 3/11	3/16 0	--	--	3/16	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
Semipalmated Plover	5/ 5 5/ 5	0 5/10 5/12	0 0	4/24	5/ 5	0	5/ 1	5/ 5	5/ 9	5/ 5	--	--	--
Killdeer	2/28 3/ 2	3/11 2/28 2/27	2/28 3/ 2 3/18	3/ 2	W	2/27	W	3/23	W	--	--	--	--
Black-bellied Plover	5/ 2 5/ 3	0 0 5/ 5	0 0	5/ 5	5/ 5	3/17	5/ 1	0	0	3/31	--	--	--
Greater Yellowlegs	3/24 3/26	5/ 5 3/ 7 3/31	4/27 0	3/18	3/24	0	3/29	3/12	4/21	3/16	--	--	--
Lesser Yellowlegs	4/16 3/31	4/27 3/16 3/28	5/ 5 0	4/20	4/22	0	3/29	5/ 1	--	3/31	--	--	--
Solitary Sandpiper	4/30 4/23	4/27 4/26 3/18	4/14 4/22	4/22	--	4/25	5/ 5	--	4/28	--	--	--	--
Spotted Sandpiper	4/27 4/25	4/18 4/26 4/22	4/27 4/22	4/24	4/27	--	5/ 1	4/16	--	4/28	--	--	--
American Woodcock	2/28 3/10	3/21 3/10 3/ 3	3/ 3 3/ 5 3/19	3/13	--	2/14	--	--	3/16	--	--	--	--
Common Snipe	3/13 3/16	3/28 3/ 9 3/17	3/17 3/ 3 3/ 2	3/14	W	3/23	4/13	0	3/16	--	--	--	--
Semipalmated Sandpiper	5/ 4 5/ 5	0 5/ 1 5/ 2	--	0	5/ 5	--	5/ 5	4/26	5/ 5	--	--	--	--
Least Sandpiper	5/ 1 4/19	5/ 5 4/16 4/13	--	0	--	4/25	0	4/19	--	5/ 9	4/14	--	--
Pectoral Sandpiper	4/13 3/29	0 3/13 3/29	0 0	--	3/30	0	3/29	4/12	0	4/14	--	--	--
Dunlin	4/28 4/26	0 4/26 5/ 5	0 0	0	3/24	0	4/16	5/ 5	0	W	--	--	--
Laughing Gull	4/ 9 3/31	0 0 3/28	0 0	0	3/24	--	4/ 3	4/ 9	4/13	3/25	--	--	--
Nona-part's Gull	3/31 3/31	3/30 4/15 3/ 3	0 4/ 1	0	3/ 9	0	4/17	0	4/13	3/16	--	--	--
Common Tern	5/ 1 --	0 0 5/ 5	0 0	0	4/26	0	5/ 5	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
Little Tern	5/ 4 5/ 5	0 0 5/ 2	0 0	0	5/12	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
Caspian Tern	4/28 --	5/ 5 0 4/11	0 0	0	4/ 8	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5/ 6 5/ 2	5/ 5 5/ 5 4/23	5/ 3 --	5/ 2	4/26	5/ 5	5/ 1	4/29	4/26	5/ 5	--	--	--
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/ 6 5/ 5	-- 0 5/19	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/ 8	0	0	5/ 5	--	--	--	--
Chuck-will's-widow	5/ 3 4/29	0 0 4/22	0	--	4/21	5/ 5	4/29	4/21	5/ 5	5/ 5	--	--	--
Whip-poor-will	4/24 4/24	5/ 5 4/24 4/22	4/12 5/ 5	4/30	4/23	5/ 5	4/29	4/24	0	4/14	--	--	--
Common Nighthawk	5/ 6 5/ 5	5/ 5 0 5/ 5	5/ 5 5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 6	0	5/ 8	5/ 5	0	0	4/28	--	--	--
Chimney Swift	4/18 4/20	4/21 4/11 4/17	4/19 4/23	4/20	3/1	4/25	4/18	4/18	4/21	4/28	--	--	--
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	4/30 5/ 1	4/28 5/ 1 5/ 4	5/ 2 4/26	5/ 5	4/25	5/ 5	4/28	5/ 1	--	5/ 2	--	--	--
Belted Kingfisher	3/15 3/21	3/ 8 --	--	3/25	3/17	3/29	3/31	--	3/ 1	W	W	--	--
Eastern Kingbird	4/28 4/24	5/ 5 4/28 4/22	4/22 5/ 2	4/24	4/22	5/ 5	4/24	4/22	5/ 6	4/16	--	--	--
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	5/ 1 4/28	5/ 2 5/ 9 4/28	5/10 5/ 5	4/22	4/22	4/28	4/29	4/24	5/ 6	4/28	--	--	--
Eastern Phoebe	3/18 3/18	3/19 3/18 3/ 8	3/19 3/11	3/11	3/23	3/17	3/21	3/10	3/30	3/31	--	--	--
Acadian Flycatcher	5/ 5 5/ 5	-- 5/20 5/ 1	5/ 5 5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 2	--	5/ 5	--	--	--
Willow Flycatcher	5/20 5/16	5/29 5/13 5/17	5/16 0	0	0	0	5/ 5	0	0	0	--	--	--
Least Flycatcher	5/ 6 5/ 5	5/ 8 0 5/ 2	5/17 5/ 5	0	0	0	5/ 5	0	0	0	--	--	--
Eastern Pewee	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 5 5/ 9 5/ 5	4/30 5/ 5	4/25	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	4/26	--	--	--	--	--

Table 1 (cont.) Spring Arrival Dates, 1979

Species	Median 10-Yr 1979	W.Md	F/Ca	Balt	Howa	Mont	Pr.G	AnAr	S.Md	K/QA	Caro	Talb	LES
Tree Swallow	3/29 3/29	3/29	3/27	3/31	4/1	3/31	3/22	3/23	3/25	3/29	4/10	4/13	3/16
Bank Swallow	5/1 4/28	4/27	5/1	4/18	4/24	--	--	4/15	5/5	4/26	5/5	0	4/28
Rough-winged Swallow	4/17 4/17	4/27	4/16	3/30	4/13	4/22	4/25	3/31	5/5	4/6	4/18	--	--
Barn Swallow	4/7 4/5	4/18	4/1	3/31	4/1	4/15	4/17	4/1	4/17	4/5	4/11	3/31	4/11
Cliff Swallow	5/3 5/1	4/27	3/27	4/19	--	--	--	5/5	0	0	5/5	0	5/5
Purple Martin	4/3 3/30	5/5	3/27	4/8	4/1	--	3/30	3/29	4/14	3/19	3/21	--	3/31
House Wren	4/21 4/22	4/19	4/22	4/10	4/19	4/22	4/19	4/25	5/5	4/24	4/23	4/21	4/28
Marsh Wren	5/2 4/30	0	0	4/21	0	0	--	4/25	5/5	5/3	5/5	--	4/28
Gray Catbird	4/25 4/22	5/2	4/22	4/22	4/11	4/16	4/23	4/23	4/22	4/19	4/30	--	4/28
Brown Thrasher	4/8 4/12	4/23	4/7	3/10	4/8	4/15	4/11	4/1	4/24	4/14	3/29	4/21	4/28
American Robin	2/22 3/4	3/9	3/18	3/1	2/4	3/7	3/2	W	W	2/23	W	W	W
Wood Thrush	4/23 4/24	4/24	5/2	4/21	4/25	4/24	4/24	4/23	4/25	4/25	4/24	--	4/23
Swainson's Thrush	5/6 5/5	5/5	5/7	5/4	5/4	5/5	5/5	5/3	5/5	5/14	--	0	5/12
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5/9 5/10	5/9	0	0	0	5/5	5/5	5/21	0	5/14	0	0	5/12
Veery	5/3 4/30	4/21	--	4/29	4/29	4/28	5/2	5/5	0	5/5	5/1	0	--
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/12 4/9	4/8	4/12	4/5	4/11	4/7	3/31	4/8	4/14	4/15	4/5	4/22	4/15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3/25 3/25	3/25	3/16	3/26	W	4/7	W	3/10	3/25	W	3/29	W	W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4/10 4/10	4/1	4/10	4/10	3/27	W	3/29	4/11	W	4/11	--	--	W
Water Pipit	3/23 --	0	3/11	2/27	0	0	0	3/10	--	4/2	0	0	0
White-eyed Vireo	4/22 4/21	4/23	4/21	4/21	4/20	4/21	4/22	4/21	4/22	4/15	4/22	4/22	4/22
Yellow-throated Vireo	4/30 4/30	--	--	5/1	--	--	4/22	4/30	--	4/17	5/5	--	--
Solitary Vireo	4/26 4/24	4/22	--	4/22	4/22	5/4	4/24	5/5	0	4/25	4/25	0	4/22
Red-eyed Vireo	4/30 4/24	5/5	4/29	4/22	4/29	--	4/22	4/24	4/22	4/25	4/24	4/22	4/28
Warbling Vireo	5/1 4/30	5/5	5/5	4/24	4/29	4/22	5/1	0	0	4/26	5/5	0	0
Black-&-white Warbler	4/22 4/22	4/22	4/29	4/21	4/21	4/22	4/19	4/28	4/22	4/11	4/23	--	4/15
Prothonotary Warbler	4/24 4/23	4/16	0	3/31	4/29	4/28	4/22	4/22	4/28	4/24	4/23	--	4/28
Worm-eating Warbler	5/2 4/29	5/5	--	4/23	4/15	4/28	4/30	5/5	5/5	4/11	5/5	0	4/28
Golden-winged Warbler	5/3 5/2	4/24	5/8	5/5	4/30	5/5	4/25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blue-winged Warbler	5/3 4/29	--	5/5	4/22	4/29	4/29	4/22	4/28	5/5	4/30	4/30	0	5/5
Tennessee Warbler	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/12	5/5	5/11	5/5	5/2	5/5	0	4/30	0	0	0
Nashville Warbler	5/2 5/4	4/19	0	5/4	0	5/5	5/12	5/5	0	5/5	0	0	0
Parula Warbler	4/25 4/25	5/5	5/1	4/15	4/25	4/15	4/15	4/22	4/22	4/29	4/26	--	4/28
Yellow Warbler	4/26 4/25	4/24	4/26	4/24	4/23	4/26	4/24	4/22	5/5	4/24	4/30	5/5	4/28
Magnolia Warbler	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/12	5/4	5/1	--	5/5	--	5/5	5/5	--	0	5/5
Cape May Warbler	5/4 5/3	5/4	4/28	5/5	5/3	5/5	5/1	--	0	5/4	5/3	0	0
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	5/4 5/5	5/5	5/10	4/22	5/5	4/25	5/1	5/5	0	5/1	5/5	0	5/12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	4/15 4/19	4/20	4/26	4/10	4/20	4/26	4/19	W	4/11	3/31	4/14	4/22	W
Black-thr. Green Warb.	5/4 5/1	4/23	--	5/1	5/1	5/5	5/1	0	0	5/4	0	0	5/5
Cerulean Warbler	5/3 5/5	5/5	--	4/29	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/14	5/5	0	0
Blackburnian Warbler	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/5	5/4	5/5	5/5	5/5	0	0	5/2	0	0	5/8
Yellow-thr. Warbler	4/17 4/21	--	4/22	4/20	4/20	3/31	0	4/22	5/5	5/5	--	0	4/8
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/12	4/25	5/7	5/5	5/5	0	0	5/3	0	0	0
Bay-breasted Warbler	5/7 5/5	5/5	--	5/7	0	5/5	--	0	5/5	5/17	0	0	0
Blackpoll Warbler	5/5 5/5	5/12	5/11	5/3	5/6	5/3	5/2	5/4	5/5	4/24	5/16	5/9	5/5
Pine Warbler	3/17 3/17	4/9	0	3/17	0	0	3/2	3/31	3/17	3/15	0	4/22	3/16
Prairie Warbler	4/25 4/22	4/23	4/22	4/22	4/23	--	4/22	4/22	4/24	5/1	5/5	4/22	4/22
Palm Warbler	4/15 4/17	4/23	0	3/31	4/23	4/15	4/19	--	0	3/23	0	0	W
Ovenbird	4/24 4/22	5/5	5/8	4/23	4/22	4/22	4/19	4/21	4/22	4/24	4/22	4/22	4/15
Northern Waterthrush	5/1 4/25	5/5	5/1	4/23	4/14	4/22	4/22	4/28	0	5/1	5/5	4/22	--
Louisiana Waterthrush	4/7 4/5	4/12	4/2	4/5	4/5	4/21	3/31	4/28	4/22	3/14	4/5	--	4/8
Kentucky Warbler	5/3 5/3	--	--	5/1	5/5	4/28	--	5/5	5/5	5/3	4/26	--	--
Common Yellowthroat	4/21 4/22	4/29	4/26	4/17	4/22	4/22	4/22	4/22	4/22	4/16	4/19	4/21	4/14
Yellow-breasted Chat	5/4 5/5	4/29	5/5	4/29	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/1	5/4	--	5/5
Hooded Warbler	5/1 4/25	5/5	--	4/25	4/22	--	4/23	5/5	4/22	0	--	--	4/28
Wilson's Warbler	5/6 --	0	0	5/5	0	5/5	0	5/17	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Warbler	5/7 5/8	5/8	5/12	5/4	5/15	5/8	5/5	5/5	0	5/5	5/16	0	0
American Redstart	5/1 4/24	4/24	5/2	4/24	4/25	4/28	4/22	4/22	4/22	4/15	--	--	5/5
Bobolink	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/7	5/2	5/3	5/5	5/5	4/25	5/5	5/5	5/5	--	4/28
Orchard Oriole	5/2 5/2	--	5/5	4/21	5/4	--	5/5	4/23	5/5	4/30	4/29	5/6	4/28
Northern Oriole	4/30 5/1	5/2	5/1	4/26	4/25	--	5/2	4/24	5/3	5/1	4/17	0	5/5
Scarlet Tanager	5/1 4/27	5/5	4/30	4/25	4/27	--	4/22	4/28	4/22	5/1	4/27	--	5/5
Summer Tanager	5/5 5/5	0	0	--	5/5	0	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/8	4/26	0	4/28
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/4 5/5	5/5	5/7	4/28	5/5	5/5	5/4	5/5	5/5	5/3	5/4	--	5/5
Blue Grosbeak	5/5 5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/7	5/5	4/30	5/5	5/5	5/1	4/28	5/11	5/5
Indigo Bunting	5/1 4/29	5/5	5/5	5/1	4/28	4/28	4/27	5/4	4/28	4/23	--	--	5/5
Rufous-sided Towhee	3/24 3/23	--	3/18	3/10	3/27	--	3/29	3/30	--	3/20	W	W	W
Savannah Sparrow	3/22 3/13	4/27	--	3/3	4/11	--	3/18	3/9	0	2/9	W	W	W
Grasshopper Sparrow	5/2 4/27	--	5/4	4/24	4/23	4/20	5/5	4/26	5/5	4/25	5/5	--	4/28
Vesper Sparrow	4/5 3/31	4/3	--	3/31	3/29	3/26	4/5	3/23	--	4/14	4/1	0	W
Chipping Sparrow	4/4 3/30	4/2	3/31	3/29	4/11	4/1	3/21	3/18	3/21	3/30	3/19	4/14	3/31

Table 2. Spring Departure Dates, 1979

Species	Median	Garr	Fred	Carr.	Balt	Howa	Mont	Pr.G	AnAr	S.Md	Kent	Caro	Talb	LES
	10-Yr 1979													
Common Loon	5/ 9 5/15	5/31	0	--	6/ 3	5/10	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/24	--	5/ 5	5/17	5/20	5/13
Horned Grebe	5/ 2 5/ 5	5/ 5	4/10	--	6/ 2	5/ 5	--	0	4/10	--	--	0	--	--
Pied-billed Grebe	-- 5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/10	4/21	4/13	--	5/ 5	5/ 5	--	3/16	0	0	--
Double-cr. Cormorant	5/17 5/ 9	--	0	5/ 5	6/ 9	0	5/ 5	0	6/ 8	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	6/10	5/13
Whistling Swan	5/ 2 4/ 3	3/25	4/16	--	3/22	4/ 6	--	--	4/18	--	5/ 5	3/31	--	3/31
Canada Goose	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/22	5/ 5	4/24	5/ 5	5/ 8	--	4/24	4/22	5/ 5	6/ 2	5/30	--	--
Snow Goose	-- --	0	0	0	3/13	0	0	0	0	0	5/ 5	2/28	0	5/ 5
Gadwall	4/26 4/26	4/ 8	0	4/26	5/ 5	0	0	5/ 5	0	0	4/16	0	0	--
Common Pintail	5/ 3 3/19	3/ 9	0	4/26	3/31	3/ 8	4/26	3/22	3/13	0	5/26	3/16	0	4/28
Green-winged Teal	4/29 4/28	4/ 8	4/18	4/26	4/29	--	--	5/ 5	4/15	0	5/26	0	--	5/21
American Wigeon	4/19 4/19	5/ 5	0	4/26	4/17	4/19	--	4/ 1	4/ 8	--	5/ 1	3/16	--	5/21
Northern Shoveler	4/15 4/14	3/30	0	4/ 7	4/17	3/22	--	0	0	0	5/ 2	4/16	0	4/14
Redhead	4/ 6 3/20	5/ 5	0	3/18	3/22	3/15	0	4/ 1	--	--	3/20	3/ 5	0	--
Ring-necked Duck	4/15 4/16	4/18	0	4/19	3/17	4/20	--	5/ 5	4/ 8	--	4/16	4/10	0	3/16
Canvasback	4/15 3/31	4/ 8	0	0	3/22	0	0	3/22	4/14	0	4/17	3/ 5	--	3/31
Greater Scaup	-- --	0	0	0	0	0	0	3/18	4/28	0	5/ 5	0	0	3/16
Lesser Scaup	5/ 1 4/25	5/ 5	0	4/19	5/31	4/28	0	5/ 5	4/21	0	4/21	3/ 5	4/21	4/28
Common Goldeneye	4/27 4/14	3/21	--	4/19	4/17	0	0	3/11	4/21	0	4/17	4/10	--	3/31
Rufflehead	5/ 2 4/27	5/30	--	4/19	5/27	4/27	0	5/ 5	4/15	0	4/20	0	4/21	4/28
Oldsquaw	4/12 4/10	4/10	0	4/19	--	4/ 3	0	0	4/ 8	0	3/15	4/10	4/15	5/ 5
White-winged Scoter	4/14 --	4/10	0	0	2/24	0	0	0	5/19	0	0	0	0	5/ 5
Ruddy Duck	5/ 5 5/17	5/30	0	5/10	5/27	0	0	0	5/24	0	5/ 8	0	0	3/31
Hooded Merganser	4/20 4/ 8	4/ 8	0	4/15	4/21	4/ 8	0	3/19	0	0	3/29	0	0	3/16
Common Merganser	4/ 9 3/28	--	--	3/18	3/24	0	5/ 5	4/19	--	--	3/14	0	0	3/31
Red-br. Merganser	5/ 5 5/ 5	4/17	0	0	5/ 5	5/ 9	5/ 5	0	5/24	0	4/17	0	4/14	5/13
Rough-legged Hawk	3/30 4/11	0	0	0	4/20	4/20	0	0	4/11	0	2/14	0	0	3/31
Northern Harrier	-- 5/ 5	0	5/ 5	0	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 5	4/19	5/ 5	0	--
American Coot	5/ 4 5/ 5	5/ 5	--	4/24	5/ 5	4/20	0	5/ 5	6/ 1	--	4/ 9	0	0	--
Semipalmated Plover	5/26 5/25	0	5/21	--	5/27	0	0	--	6/ 2	0	5/26	5/ 5	5/25	5/21
Black-bellied Plover	5/23 --	0	0	0	5/27	0	0	--	6/ 5	0	5/10	0	0	5/13
Greater Yellowlegs	5/ 8 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	4/24	5/27	5/17	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/23	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 9	6/ 1
Lesser Yellowlegs	5/ 5 5/17	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/19	5/16	5/ 5	5/ 5	7/23	5/ 5	5/11	5/ 5	5/ 9	6/ 1
Solitary Sandpiper	5/12 5/16	5/ 5	5/26	--	5/27	5/16	--	5/16	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/26	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/21
Spotted Sandpiper	5/22 5/27	5/30	5/27	--	6/ 5	5/31	--	--	6/11	5/ 5	5/26	--	5/ 9	5/21
Common Snipe	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	4/26	5/ 5	--	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/12	0	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	4/28
Short-billed Dowitcher	5/27 --	5/13	0	0	0	0	0	--	6/ 4	0	6/ 2	0	0	6/ 1
Semipalmated Sandpiper	5/26 5/30	0	--	0	5/27	5/16	0	0	6/11	5/ 5	6/ 2	0	5/25	6/ 1
Least Sandpiper	5/18 5/16	5/ 5	5/ 2	4/26	6/3	5/16	0	5/ 5	6/ 7	0	5/26	5/ 5	5/ 9	6/ 1
Pectoral Sandpiper	5/ 8 5/ 5	0	5/21	0	5/ 5	0	0	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/11	5/ 5	0	5/12
Dunlin	5/22 6/ 1	0	0	--	5/ 5	0	0	0	6/ 4	0	6/ 2	5/ 5	0	6/ 1
Bonaparte's Gull	5/ 3 4/19	4/19	0	4/19	5/ 5	0	5/ 5	0	5/25	0	4/17	0	--	3/31
Short-eared Owl	-- --	0	0	0	4/ 8	0	0	0	4/15	0	2/ 8	0	0	4/14
Yellow-bell. Sapsucker	5/ 2 --	4/ 9	--	--	5/10	--	--	--	--	--	4/29	--	--	--
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 5	--	4/15	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	--	5/ 1	0	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	0
Brown Creeper	4/24 4/27	5/21	--	4/19	5/ 5	4/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	4/ 1	--	4/19	5/ 5	--	3/31
Winter Wren	4/26 --	0	0	0	4/23	0	0	4/10	0	0	3/27	0	0	0
Hermit Thrush	5/ 4 5/ 5	5/18	0	4/15	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/16	--	5/ 5	0	4/20	4/30	0	0
Swinson's Thrush	5/24 5/24	0	5/26	5/29	6/ 2	5/17	5/30	5/24	5/24	--	5/14	5/22	0	5/12
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5/22 5/18	5/ 9	0	0	0	0	5/30	5/30	5/22	0	5/14	0	0	5/13
Veery	5/19 5/24	--	--	0	6/ 5	5/28	5/21	--	5/12	0	5/26	5/ 1	0	--
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4/16 3/29	5/ 5	--	--	5/ 5	--	--	5/ 5	3/10	3/25	--	3/29	--	3/16
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5/ 6 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	--	5/15	5/ 5	5/ 6	5/ 5	5/ 5	4/29	5/ 5	--	--	4/28
Water Pipit	5/ 4 5/ 5	0	5/ 5	--	5/ 8	0	0	0	5/12	--	4/ 4	5/ 5	0	0
Solitary Vireo	5/ 6 5/ 5	--	--	0	--	--	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/11	5/ 5	0	5/ 5
Tennessee Warbler	5/18 5/12	5/ 5	5/12	0	5/27	--	5/28	--	--	0	5/ 4	0	0	0
Nashville Warbler	5/10 --	--	0	0	--	0	5/ 6	--	5/ 5	0	5/14	0	0	0
Magnolia Warbler	5/22 5/25	--	5/12	0	6/ 2	5/17	5/30	5/25	5/25	--	5/30	5/21	0	5/12
Cape May Warbler	5/13 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/ 6	5/ 5	--	5/14	5/14	0	5/ 5	--	0	0
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	5/16 5/24	--	0	--	5/27	5/22	5/29	5/17	5/24	0	5/ 8	5/30	5/25	5/12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	5/14 5/14	5/ 5	5/12	--	5/21	5/17	5/20	5/14	5/15	5/ 5	5/14	--	5/ 6	5/12
Black-thr. Green Warbler	5/14 --	--	--	0	5/27	5/24	--	--	0	0	5/ 8	0	0	5/12
Blackburnian Warbler	5/16 5/25	--	5/28	0	5/21	5/17	--	5/28	0	0	5/29	0	0	5/12
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/17 5/20	--	5/12	0	5/28	5/21	5/20	--	0	0	5/ 5	0	0	0
Bay-breasted Warbler	5/20 --	--	5/29	0	--	0	--	5/24	0	--	5/29	0	0	0
Blackpoll Warbler	5/31 5/27	--	5/27	0	6/10	6/ 1	5/31	5/30	6/ 1	5/18	5/26	5/23	5/24	5/12

Table 2 (cont.) Spring Departure Dates, 1979

Species	Median	Carr		Fred		Carr		Balt		Howa		Mont		Pr.G		AnAr		S.Md		Kent		Caro		Talb		LES	
	10-Yr 1979																										
Palm Warbler	5/ 4 5/ 4	4/23	0	0				5/ 5 5/ 5	4/22	--	5/ 5	0		5/ 3	0	0	--			5/ 3	0	0	--				
Northern Waterthrush	5/19 5/24	--	--	0				5/27 5/24	5/30	--	5/24	0		5/15	5/23	--	5/12										
Wilson's Warbler	5/24 --	0	0	0				5/10 0	5/20	0	5/17	0		0	0	0	0										
Canada Warbler	5/26 5/29	--	5/29	0				5/28 5/24	5/31	5/30	5/17	0		5/30	5/16	0	0										
American Redstart	5/29 5/30	--	5/29	--				5/27 5/31	6/ 6	5/25	6/ 3	--		5/31	5/30	5/22	--										
Bobolink	5/16 5/19	--	5/ 7	0				5/20 5/17	--	5/28	5/25	--		0	5/15	5/20	5/12										
Rusty Blackbird	5/ 6 5/ 4	5/ 5	4/28	0				4/20 5/ 2	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/11	4/ 8		5/ 5	0	0	3/31										
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/19 5/19	--	5/27	0				6/ 2 5/17	5/27	--	5/17	--		5/14	--	5/21	5/12										
Evening Grosbeak	5/ 5 5/ 5	5/15	--	0				5/ 5 5/ 8	0	5/ 8	5/ 5	5/ 5		5/ 6	5/ 5	3/26	5/ 5										
Purple Finch	5/ 5 5/ 5	--	5/ 5	0				--	5/ 7	5/ 6	5/ 5	5/ 1	0	5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/ 5										
Savannah Sparrow	5/ 8 5/14	--	--	0				5/16 5/23	--	5/ 9	5/24	5/19		5/ 5	5/ 5	0	5/12										
Northern Junco	5/ 3 5/ 5	5/ 5	5/22	5/ 5				--	5/19	5/ 5	5/ 8	4/25	4/22	5/ 5	5/ 9	--	3/16										
Tree Sparrow	3/24 3/18	3/11	3/27	3/18				4/ 1 3/ 4	--	0	3/ 3	0		3/21	0	0	0										
White-crowned Sparrow	5/ 9 5/ 5	5/ 7	5/ 5	0				5/ 5 5/ 5	5/ 9	--	5/ 5	5/ 5	5/ 9		5/ 5	5/ 9	0	3/16									
White-throated Sparrow	5/12 5/ 7	5/ 5	5/ 7	--				5/27 5/16	5/20	5/16	5/20	5/ 5		5/ 7	5/ 7	--	5/ 5										
Fox Sparrow	4/ 8 4/ 3	3/10	5/ 5	0				5/ 5 4/ 5	4/15	--	3/ 2	0		3/21	0	0	3/31										
Swamp Sparrow	5/ 9 5/10	--	5/ 5	5/10				5/20	--	5/27	--	5/24	--	5/ 5	5/ 5	--	4/28										

D. Helm III, Dr. John W. Richards, Phyllis and Dr. Howard M. Hodge, Carolyn and Ken Maize, Serene Collmus, Dr. William G. Meredith, William N. Shirey, Chandler S. Robbins, David Holmes, Betsy Reeder, Rick Blom, Bob Ringler, Bill Ellis, Gerry Newton.

Baltimore - Rick Blom, Bob Ringler, Eddie Slaughter, Paul Noell, Jim Stasz, Ed Boyd, Haven Kolb, Steve Sapperstein, Stephen and Diana Middleton, Steve Simon, Jim Orgain, Peter Knight, Mike Resch, Jeff Bickart, John Cullom, Warren Bielenberg, Martin Brazeau, Charlie Swift, David Holmes, Hank Kaestner, Tom Andres, Patsy Perlman, Marian Glass, Barbara Ross, Joe Schreiber, Bob Jarboe.

Harford/Cecil - Joe Schreiber.

Howard - Mark D. Wallace, Jo Solem, V. and Marcia Krishnamoorthy, Joanne Moroney, John and Brenda Bell, David Holmes, Alice and Terry Kretz, Rosamond Munro, Sarah and Edith Haviland, Mary Hall, George Chase, Paul Zucker, Steve Simon, Clio Leonard, Marty Chesten, Paul Leifer.

Montgomery - Dr. John D. Helm III, Robert W. Warfield, Margaret Donald, John Weske.

Prince Georges - Chuck Dupree, Paul Leifer, Ric Conn, Danny Bystrak, Steve Gniadek, Sam Droege, Chandler S. Robbins, Paul Nistico, Bob Ringler.

Anne Arundel - Hal Wierenga, Danny Bystrak, Paul Leifer.

Southern Maryland (Charles, Calvert and St. Marys) - Paul Nistico.

Kent/Queen Annes - Floyd L. Parks, Jimmy Gruber, Jan Reese.

Talbot - Jan Reese, Jeff Effinger, Alice Jones.

Caroline - A. J. and Roberta B. Fletcher, Marvin W. Hewitt, Ethel Engle, K. McKee, Edwin Unger, Douglas Pyle, Steve Westre, Mariana Nuttle, Alicia Knotts, Tom Robbins, C. Adams, W. Rittenhouse, C. Scudder.

Lower Eastern Shore (Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties) Henry T. Armistead, Charles Vaughn.

All waterbird entries in the W. Md. column of Table 1 (except the cormorant and Great Blue Heron) are from Garrett County, as are all but 18 of the landbirds. In the K/QA column all dates are for Kent County except the grebe, snipe, terns, Barn Swallow and Bobolink. In the S.Md. column of Table 2, all but some of the May 5 dates are from Charles County.

Loons, Grebes, Pelagics, Cormorants. Wierenga counted 1,039 Common Loons passing over the Sandy Point/Annapolis area during the period with a peak of 449 on Apr. 22. From Dan's Rock, Paulus saw 31 flying over the mountains on Apr. 21. Two Double-crested Cormorants were also crossing the ridge that day. A lingering Common Loon at Deep Creek Lake on May 31 (Pope) was probably a non-breeding vagrant. A Red-throated Loon at Seneca on May 6 (Warfield) was both late and at an unusual location. The only Red-necked Grebe seen this spring was in Baltimore Harbor, Mar. 6 through May 7 (Bielenberg). The only pelagic trip of the season went out from Ocean City on May 12 and found a Manx and 2 Sooty Shearwaters with 1,500 Wilson's Storm Petrels. Armistead was delighted to see 3 Northern Gannets from Hooper's I. as they flew up the bay on Mar. 31. J. M. Abbott estimated that over 1,000 Double-crested Cormorants were at Colton's Pt. on Mar. 13.

Hérons, Ibis. A Green Heron seen by Mark Wallace in Howard County on Mar. 20 may have spent the winter there. Out of place Little Blue Herons included single birds at Annapolis on Apr. 6 (Wierenga), Mitchellville on Apr. 22 (Liefer), Talbot County on Apr. 22 (Jones), Kent County on May 5 (Gruber), and Baltimore County on May 13 (Blom). Early Great Egrets arrived in Kent County, Mar. 14 (Gruber), in Baltimore (19 birds) on Mar. 19 (Stasz and Boyd), and at Broadford Reservoir in Garrett County on Apr. 8 (Pope). Caroline County's first Louisiana Herons were 3 at Tanyard, May 5 (Engles). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron arrived at the familiar nest site in Mt. Washington near Baltimore on the record early date of Mar. 24 (Perlman). Another was in Kent County on May 4 (Parks), and Washington County's third record was at Snyder's Landing in May (Truman Doyle). The first Least Bittern arrived at Sandy Pt. on Apr. 21 (Wierenga). Glossy Ibis in the northern bay region were 2 at Sandy Pt. on Apr. 5 (Wierenga), 3 there on Apr. 27, and 1 at Back River on Apr. 22 (Knight, Stasz).

Waterfowl. The Mute Swan is usually found only in the northern part of the bay on the Eastern Shore. Therefore, two records from the Piedmont are of interest. An immature was at Piney Run in Carroll County on Apr. 26 (Blom) and one flew over Lilypons in Frederick County on May 5 (Mullican, Wallace). The majority of migrating Whistling Swans passed through on the night of Mar. 18-19. Eight Brant flying north off Ocean City Inlet on May 13 (Reese and Ringler) were quite late. Parks observed 3 Greater White-fronted Geese flying with a flock of Snow Geese near Golts in Kent County, Apr. 11. Seventy Snow Geese flying over Essex in Baltimore County on Mar. 1 (Stasz) were unique on the Western Shore. A drake American Wigeon at Blackwater Refuge on May 21 (Armistead) was lingering late. Diving ducks moved through Garrett County in significant numbers in early April. Pope found 55 Canvasbacks and 90 Buffleheads on Broadford Reservoir on Apr. 8, and Thayer found 150 Oldsquaws and 12 White-winged Scoters on Deep Creek Lake on Apr. 10. Other late migrants were a drake Bufflehead and 2 Ruddy Ducks at Back River, May 21 (Knight). On the night of Apr. 2 Wierenga heard approximately 40 flocks of Oldsquaws flying over Annapolis. On the same night Steve Sapperstein recorded the calls of a flock going over his house in Pikesville. Five White-winged Scoters on Piney Run Reservoir, Apr. 3 (Blom), were the only ones reported from the Piedmont.

Table 3. Migrant Vultures and Hawks at Dan's Rock, Allegany County, Spring 1979

<u>Species</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>Highest Counts</u>
Black Vulture	2	4/21		2 on 4/21
Northern Goshawk	1	4/ 1		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	200	4/ 1	4/24	83 on 4/21, 56 on 4/22
Cooper's Hawk	18	4/ 1	4/24	6 on 4/21, 5 on 4/20
Red-tailed Hawk	54	4/ 1	4/22	13 on 4/11 and 21, 12 on 4/20
Red-shouldered Hawk	15	4/ 1	4/24	5 on 4/21
Broad-winged Hawk	1,311	4/11	4/24	662 on 4/21, 346 on 4/22
Golden Eagle	6	4/20	4/22	4 on 4/20, 1 also on 4/21
Bald Eagle	1	4/22		
Northern Harrier	16	4/ 8	4/23	7 on 4/21, 5 on 4/22
Osprey	51	4/ 1	4/28	22 on 4/21, 20 on 4/22
American Kestrel	11	4/11	4/22	5 on 4/20
Unidentified	36			
Total (9 days)	1,722	4/ 1	4/28	815 on 4/21, 451 on 4/22

Table 4. Migrant Vultures and Hawks at Annapolis/Sandy Pt., Anne Arundel County, Spring 1979

<u>Species</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>Highest Counts</u>
Turkey Vulture	328	3/ 1	5/19	58 on 4/5, 42 on 3/27
Black Vulture	18	3/20	4/21	3 on 4/11 and 21
Sharp-shinned Hawk	542	3/ 1	5/10	75 on 4/30, 74 on 4/5
Cooper's Hawk	21	3/23	5/ 5	8 on 4/5
Red-tailed Hawk	80	2/27	5/ 1	19 on 3/27, 13 on 4/5
Red-shouldered Hawk	34	3/ 7	4/22	14 on 4/5
Broad-winged Hawk	135	4/ 5	6/ 8	35 on 6/5, 21 on 4/30
Rough-legged Hawk	1	4/11		
Bald Eagle	7	3/ 7	6/ 5	1
Northern Harrier	55	3/ 3	5/ 6	12 on 4/5, 5 on 3/31
Osprey	102	3/16	5/ 8	13 on 4/5, 9 on 4/10
Peregrine Falcon	4	3/ 7	5/ 9	1 also on 3/11 and 5/3
Merlin	9	4/18	5/15	2 on 4/22 and 5/3
American Kestrel	505	2/25	5/ 4	132 on 4/5, 48 on 3/26
Total	1,841	2/27	6/ 8	

Vultures, Hawks. Totals from two hawk watches are shown in Tables 3 and 4. Among the interesting records summarized there are 3 Black Vultures that Wierenga found migrating on the record late date of Apr. 21 and 2 Black Vultures and 662 Broad-winged Hawks seen at Dan's Rock on the same day by the Smiths. Among the latest migrants were a Sharp-shinned Hawk at Blackwater on May 5 (Armistead and Edward W. Marshall) and a Rough-legged Hawk flying over the Patapsco River at Woodstock on Apr. 20 (Blom and Bickart). In addition to the 6 Golden Eagles seen at Dan's Rock, others were reported as follows: an immature at Blackwater on Mar. 31 (Armistead), an adult over Edgemere, Baltimore County, Apr. 22 (Knight and Stasz), and an adult at Blackwater, May 5 (Armistead and Marshall). Armistead also reported that Bald Eagle numbers seemed

rather low. His highest count in Southern Dorchester County was 18 on Mar. 31. Other Bald Eagles of note were single sightings at Tanyard in Caroline County on Mar. 23, Apr. 15, and May 21 (Engle) and an immature at the Mountain Lake Sewage Lagoons on May 5 (Pope). Armistead found that 58 Ospreys had already arrived on their breeding territories in Southern Dorchester County by Mar. 31. The only Peregrine Falcon reported away from Sandy Pt. was at Eastern Neck, Apr. 8 (Parks). Parks also reported Merlins in Kent County on Mar. 2, 3, 15, and 21, and May 2 (2 birds). Other singles were reported from Baltimore County: at Ruxton, Apr. 18 (Peter Kaestner), at Back River, Apr. 22 (Knight), and near Hampstead, May 5 (Hank Kaestner). The May 15 Merlin at Sandy Pt. tied the state departure record.

Pheasant, Rails. Armistead found three Ring-necked Pheasants running wild on Hooper I., Mar. 31. Engle found a King Rail at Tanyard, Apr. 21. A Virginia Rail at Black Marsh on Mar. 17 (Blom and Orgain) may have spent the winter. The early arrival at Sandy Pt. was on Apr. 7 (Wierenga). Armistead heard 6 or 7 Virginia Rails on the Elliott Island Road marsh on May 15 giving the oft-described "mystery call". The highest count of Soras was 10 in Southern Dorchester County, May 5 (Armistead), and a migrant was at Black Marsh, May 18 (Knight). Black Rails were found in their accustomed locations. The first bird at Sandy Pt. was heard on Apr. 26 (Wierenga) and the first at Black Marsh on May 5 (Blom). Armistead heard 10 in the Elliott marshes, May 12. Blom saw a Common Gallinule at Sparrows Pt. on the early date of Apr. 9.

Shorebirds. Armistead found his first American Oystercatcher of the year at Hooper's I. on Mar. 16. Wierenga counted 180 Killdeer near Sandy Pt. on Mar. 14. Parks found Lesser Golden Plover near Worton in Kent County, Apr. 16-21, with 3 on the 19th. Notable Black-bellied Plovers were singles in St. Marys County on Mar. 17 (Bystrak) and at Back River on May 27 (Knight). Whimbrels made an impressive showing in the northern part of the bay in late May; Mark Hoffman saw 3 at Sandy Pt., May 23, Wierenga found 1 there the next day, and Blom and Holmes saw 14 flying past Carroll Island on the 25th. Early reports of Upland Sandpipers came from Garrett County, with 5 near Gortner on Apr. 19 (Pope); 2 flew over Annapolis on Apr. 24 (Wierenga). A Willet and a Ruddy Turnstone were at Carroll I. on May 24 (Blom). Blom also found 3 turnstones on Pleasure I. on May 13. All of these birds are rare in the northern part of the bay. Extraordinary in the mountains was a female Northern Phalarope at the Mountain Lake Sewage Lagoons, May 5 (Pope). More expected were the 10 Northern and 20 Red Phalaropes seen off Ocean City on the May 12 pelagic trip. The highest count of Common Snipe to be reported was 37 in the Greenspring Valley on Mar. 21 by Rose Gerringer. Parks found a Short-billed Dowitcher in Kent County on Apr. 9 and Pope discovered 62 in a flooded field near the Mountain Lake Sewage Lagoons on May 13. A Red Knot was on Pleasure I., May 13 (Blom), and 10 were at Sandy Pt., May 24 (Wierenga). A Dunlin at Tanyard on May 5 (Engle) was unusual inland.

Gulls. The only white-winged gull to be reported was a second-year Glaucous Gull on Assateague, Mar. 18 (S. H. Dyke). Lesser Black-backed Gulls were noted at Fort McHenry through Apr. 20 (Bielenberg), at Sandy

Pt., Apr. 27 (Wierenga), and at Carroll I., May 25 (Blom and Holmes). A Black-headed Gull was seen in the Back River area on Mar. 9, 18, and 30, and May 5 (Stasz on the latter date). Bonaparte's Gulls (181) were unusual inland on Piney Run Reservoir, Apr. 12 (Blom). Two Little Gulls were seen at Back River, Apr. 1 and 22 (Knight and Stasz). An adult Little Gull was on the South River near Hillsmere, Mar. 29 (Wierenga).

Terns, Skimmer. Little Terns (73) were at Hooper's I. on May 5 (Armistead and Marshall). A Royal Tern at Denton the same day (Westre) provided the first Caroline County record. Two Caspian Terns at Herrington Manor, May 5 (Pope), were exceptional for Garrett County, and on May 26 Knight watched 30 kettling upward over Back River before heading north. The only Black Terns reported were 2 by Pope at Deep Creek Lake, May 5. A Black Skimmer at Sandy Pt. on May 24 (Wierenga) was rare for the Western Shore.

Cuckoos, Owls. Yellow-billed Cuckoos seemed quite common this year, beginning with an early one at Loch Raven on Apr. 23 (Noell). On the Eastern Shore, where they are less abundant, Armistead counted 63 in Southern Dorchester County on May 15. Wierenga heard 22 migrant Barn Owls over his Annapolis home during the season from Mar. 2 through Apr. 30 with the most being 6 on Mar. 13. This was the earliest he has ever heard them migrating. Four Long-eared Owls remained at Piney Run Park through Mar. 6. One was at Loch Raven on Mar. 25. Migrant Short-eared Owls were noted on Apr. 8 at Back River (Knight, et al.), Apr. 14 at Cambridge (Armistead), and Apr. 15 at Sandy Pt. (Barry Cooper). The only Saw-whet Owls were at Piney Run, Mar. 1 (Blom), and Loch Raven, Mar. 18 (Middletons).

Goatsuckers, Swifts. Bickart was surprised to flush a Chuck-will's-widow from the ground in Wyman Park in Baltimore City during the day, Apr. 25. Wierenga saw a very early Chimney Swift at Sandy Pt. on Mar. 31.

Flycatchers, Swallows. The only Olive-sided Flycatchers reported this spring were in Frederick County on May 5 (Mullican, Wallace) and in Baltimore County on May 25 (Clark Jeschke). Tree Swallows swept into the state with the early warm weather; 15 were at the beaver dam at Mt. Nebo in Garrett County on Mar. 29 (Pope). Also among the early arrivals was a record-shattering Cliff Swallow seen at Lilypons on Mar. 27 by Helm and his ornithology class.

Raven, Wrens. Resch saw a Northern Raven flying over the Johns Hopkins campus in Baltimore on May 2. The first Bewick's Wren arrived at Dan's Rock on Apr. 23 (Smiths). Most extraordinary was a Bewick's Wren banded in Towson on May 9 by Gladys Cole.

Pipits, Shrikes, Vireos. The highest count of Water Pipits was 100 in Kent County on Apr. 3 (Parks). Notable late birds were 10 at Greensboro on May 5 (Fletchers) and 1 at Sandy Pt. on May 12 (Wierenga). Loggerhead Shrikes are becoming increasingly rare in spring. The only birds reported were singles in Howard County on Mar. 27 (Mark Wallace), in Herring Run Park in Baltimore for three days in mid-April, and in Howard County near Laurel on Apr. 14 (Ringler). Early Yellow-throated Vireos

were found in Kent County on Apr. 17 (Parks) and at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on Apr. 22 (Gniadek).

Warblers. A record-tying Prothonotary Warbler was seen at Back River on Mar. 31 by the Middletons. Another early bird was near Deer Park in Garrett County on Apr. 16 (Pope). In Kent County, Parks found a record-tying Worm-eating Warbler on Apr. 11 and a Swainson's Warbler singing in Howell Point Bog on May 17. David Wallace found an early Golden-winged Warbler in Washington County on Apr. 24 and Parks had 3 Tennessee Warblers in Kent County on Apr. 30. Dan Boone broke the arrival record for Nashville Warbler with one near Big Pool in Washington County, Apr. 19; this observation was closely followed by a sighting by Thayer along the Youghiohny River in Garrett County on Apr. 23. At the same locality Thayer saw a Black-throated Green Warbler the same day. Boone also set a record for Cerulean Warblers when he counted 70 in Washington County west from Hancock on May 5. Rare on the Eastern Shore were a Cerulean in Denton, May 5-6 (Nuttie), and 2 in Kent County, May 14 (Parks). Joining the parade of early arrivals were a Yellow-throated Warbler at Seneca on Mar. 31 (Warfield), a Blackpoll Warbler in Kent County on Apr. 24 (Parks), and a Palm Warbler at Loch Raven on Mar. 31 (Blom, Ringle). The 8 Palm Warblers that Parks found in Kent County on Mar. 23 may have been wintering locally. Pope commented that Chestnut-sided Warblers were abundant throughout May in Garrett County. The only Mourning Warblers recorded this spring were 3 banded at Adventure Sanctuary in Montgomery County by Margaret Donald and 1 seen near Libertytown on May 27 by Robbins. Armistead found a male Hooded Warbler on Hooper's I. where it is extremely rare.

Blackbirds and Orioles. The highest count of Bobolinks reported was 250 at Greensboro, May 5 (Fletchers). Four Brewer's Blackbirds were seen in northern Baltimore County on Apr. 1 and a female was at a feeder near Sparks on Apr. 22 (Kaestner). Another wintering "Baltimore" Oriole spent three weeks in March coming to the feeder of Jeanne Woods in Randallstown.

Finches. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Kent County, Mar. 5 (Parks), was certainly wintering. The only Dickcissel noted was a male singing at a feeder in downtown Baltimore, Apr. 9 (Stasz). Five Evening Grosbeaks remained at a feeder in Gortner through May 15 (Pope). Chuck Graham saw a White-winged Crossbill in Towson on Mar. 2, the only report of either crossbill this spring.

Sparrows. Wallace found early and late species in Howard County: a Grasshopper Sparrow on Mar. 27 and a Savannah Sparrow on May 23, the latter perhaps breeding. Armistead noted his first 2 Henslow's Sparrows on the Elliott Island Road on Apr. 28. Wierenga found a Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Sandy Pt. on May 4 and Bielenberg saw one at Fort McHenry on May 7. At the risk of being repetitious Wierenga found 3 Seaside Sparrows at Sandy Pt. on Apr. 25 and Bielenberg found one at Fort McHenry on Apr. 30. Wallace rounded out the late departures with a Northern Junco in Howard County on May 19, while the latest one for the Eastern Shore was at Denton on May 9 (Knotts).

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BOOK REVIEW

THE IMPERATIVE CALL A Naturalist's Quest in Temperate and Tropical America. Alexander Skutch, University Presses of Florida, Gainesville, 1979, 331 pp., index, 48 b & w photos, 2 maps, \$20.

Alexander Skutch's interest in nature study began when he was a youngster in his native state of Maryland, many years before the MOS got its start. In the overall scheme of things, that was poor timing for us, for Skutch would have been prime material for membership in our Society, with his desire to discover as much as possible about his natural surroundings and then to pass on to others that knowledge through leadership and through publishing a large number of books and articles. However, we lost him irretrievably when as a Hopkins graduate student in Botany he was introduced to the tropics, "the headquarters of vegetable life." His first trip, to Jamaica, provided him with the subject of his doctoral dissertation and short term employment investigating the United Fruit Company's problem banana crop: "The Anatomy of a Banana Leaf." Also on this first visit Skutch suffered an illness from eating questionable food, an occurrence that would happen time and again, sometimes from food, sometimes from insect bites, malaria or just plain exhaustion. These illnesses, along with other deprivations, hazards to his life from the terrain, from chancy transportation systems, from storms, from unreliable guides never diminished the excitement he felt while studying the tropics. By the time Skutch had made his second voyage, this time to Panama, he was determined to work toward establishing a permanent base from which to continue his lifetime of study of the natural history of Central America.

It was a long time coming, botanical studies not being very profitable in the 1930's, but his desired goal of a homestead was finally accomplished. In the meantime, his original interest in botany expanded to include ornithology, from which he published the definitive work on the subject, *Aves de Costa Rica*. *The Imperative Call* contains accounts of the vivid beauty of tropical birds as well as the details of their behavior. Serious ornithologists along with serious birdwatchers can depend on Skutch's details for information and delight. Nesting habits of tropical birds received such careful scrutiny from Skutch that he was among the first to recognize that first-year birds sometime assist their parents in raising a second brood. No aspect of nature missed his careful examination. Appropriately enough, at the same time that Mt. St. Helens began erupting in Washington, I read his account of a night spent on a Costa Rican volcano. Skutch's description of how he persuaded a guide to lead him to the top of the 12,000 ft. high Volcan Santa Maria, the lovely growth of plants particularly adapted to the cone, all enshrouded in mists and gases rising from its crevices, helped clarify for me the newspaper reports of the more recent eruption.

As *The Imperative Call* progresses it becomes obvious that Skutch has been an expert journal keeper. You'll easily recognize the special Maryland qualities from his earlier entries. The interest he arouses in his scientific studies is heightened by accounts of the people he met, Costa Rican countrymen, Guatemalans, islanders from the Central American

coastal regions, as well as the ever present band of scientists, attracted, as was Skutch, to the beauties and mysteries of the Tropics. For a book that costs \$20, I expected the pictures of those beauties to be in color. However, the images evoked in my mind's eye by Skutch's excellent prose are far more colorful than any flat two dimensional photograph could elicit. Turning his journals into a highly readable book proved Skutch's assertion in his Foreword that the call to find the meanings of life in the study of nature is as strong a call as the invitation from God to search for life's meanings in religion. His regard for life in all its diverse forms is always in the forefront of his thoughts. I was deeply moved by reading this book. Our complimentary copy is on the shelf at Carey Run Sanctuary.

Joy Wheeler

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